(ix) For boosting exports of textile and clothing Government provides financial assistance to Textile Export Promotion Councils under Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme;

(x) Close monitoring of imports on regular basis so as to ensure that imports do not cause any serious detriment or injury to the domestic industry. In case any unfair trade practices come to the notice, action, if necessary, under WTO provisions are taken;

(xi) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the garments/textiles pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries;

(xii) 100% Foreign Direct Investment permitted through automatic route in the textile sector with certain exceptions; and

(xiii) For extending technical assistance and impart training facilities to powerloom weavers and to provide design development Government has set up 44 Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs) and 17 Computer Aided Design Centres.

Steps taken for flood affected people

*429. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that floods have played havoc in Bihar, Assam and other parts of India due to excess rain water flow from higher lands;

(b) if so, the details of the lives, property and crops lost in the flood affected areas;

(c) the steps taken by Government to mitigate the sufferings of flood affected people; and

(d) the action taken to prevent floods in flood prone areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. Many parts of the country experienced floods during the current South-West Monsoon due to heavy rains and rise in water levels of the rivers.

(b) The details as received from the States are as under:—

Human lives lost	1698
Houses damaged	15,76,992
Cropped area affected	30.00 lakh hectares

(c) The State Governments are primarily responsible for relief and rehabilitation post natural calamity. The Central Government provides financial assistance to the States by way of contributions to be Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the State. Advance releases of instalments of Central contribution to the CRF and *ad-hoc* releases from the NCCF were made to the affected States where necessary, pending further assistance from NCCF where required after assessment as per the prescribed procedure. The Central Government also provided food grains, medicine, tents, logistic support to the affected States by way of deployment of helicopters; Army columns with powered boats; assistance in restoration of communications; provision of satellite phones for telecommunication; medicines; assistance in procurement of animal vaccines and fodder, etc.

(d) Ministry of Water Resources, the nodal Ministry for flood control have been taking various measures for flood control from time to time in consultation with the State which are vulnerable to floods. That Ministry, on the directions of the Hon'ble Prime Minister have recently set up a Task Force for suggesting both short term and long term measures for flood management/erosion control as also the sources of funding.

Killings of old aged persons

†*430. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that old aged people are continuously being killed in various parts of the country whereby Government's claim about their security have been exposed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the measures being taken by Government to protect the old aged people?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.